

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No: 10/550,869 Conf. No.: 3428  
Applicant: Stewart Kenyon Willis Docket No.: Acergy-56  
Filed: 08/09/2006  
TC/A.U.: 3672  
Examiner: Andrish, Sean D.  
Title: *Apparatus and  
Methods for Laying of  
Elongate Articles from  
a Vessel*

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 4, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.